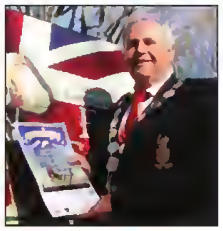
The Niagara Advance
www.niagaraadvance.ca
Thursday, April 15, 2010



Don't miss town party

Mayfair will be held at the Fort

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Friends celebrate Dodson

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Daffodils bring hope

get it online

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Reading challenge

MATT DAY Niagara Advance

Virgil students Emma Andres and Colby Capra take up the challenge offered by the NOTL Public Library. For more information please see page 19.

Town drops opposition to Virgil school site

Council comes to terms with school board over Line 2 property rezoning.

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

The town has agreed to allow an elementary school on Line 2, and an Ontario Municipal Board hearing scheduled to take five days began and ended Monday with a ruling that echoed council's decision.

Councillors met privately Saturday at the Court House before voting to withdraw their opposition to a rezoning request from the school board for a new school to accommodate Virgil and Col. John Butler students, saving taxpayers about $20,000 and allowing construction to move forward toward a September, 2011 opening.

See Page 2

DSBN provides concessions

School will have an upgraded computer lab and the Virgil Business Association could be compensated for a $40,000 donation to NDSS. Please see page 4.

One-day hearing backs Line 2 site for elementary school

Friends of NDSS frustrated by council's about-face.

From Page 1

The OMB hearing to discuss the school board's appeal of opposition to the site began Monday as scheduled, but without town involvement—town lawyer Callum Sheddun handed over the settlement agreement and excused himself from the hearing.

Parent Paolo Miele told the OMB chair the Line 2 site should be saved for family homes, and the school board should save taxpayers' money and use the NDSS site.

Debbie Redekop, wearing her blue Friends of NDSS t-shirt, echoed the sentiments about the NDSS property, and spoke of safety and traffic concerns with the Line 2 location at Niagara Stone Road.

Bryan Mancion, representing SOS, a group of parents supporting neighbourhood elementary schools, urged the chair to allow the rezoning.

At the end of the day, the chair ruled the elementary school location meets good planning principles and can go ahead on the Line 2 property.

Jamie King, who had planned to represent the Friends of NDSS at the OMB hearing, said he wasn't notified that he could still speak at Monday's hearing, but the Friends had decided that they would not continue to oppose the rezoning without the support of the town.

King was one of about 15 parents who stood outside the Court House for more than two hours Saturday, understanding that a discussion about the school was going on inside. But at no time, he said, were they invited inside.

The discussion about the settlement was held behind closed doors, but the vote to accept the terms of the agreement was required to be public.

King said he was surprised and frustrated by the agreement to settle.

"If (council) didn't have the intention of pursuing the process they should not have led us to believe they were," he said.

"It delayed the building of the new elementary school and created a lot of tension in the community. I thought it was with good reason, but now it seems not to have been."

The elementary school location, linked by some to the future of the high school, "is an issue that's important to many people in this town. We should have been allowed to hear the rationale for council's decision. I'm very disturbed that we were not allowed to participate in this process," he said. "In light of the fact that we've been working so closely with the town, we feel perturbed we were put out of the loop, and in many ways feel we were purposely put out of the loop."

Gary Zalepa Jr. was one of three councillors, along with Andrea Kaiser and Martin Mazza, to oppose the settlement. Lord Mayor Gary Burroughs broke the tie when Councillors Dennis Dick, Jim Collard and Jack Lowrey voted to accept the terms. Art Viola and Terry Flynn were not there to vote.

Zalepa said he felt comfortable that the rules regarding public meetings were followed, but he is not happy about how events unfolded.

"It was just a bad situation."

He was also not happy about the outcome of the discussion.

"I was very upset. Council had committed to a course of action, and decided not to stand behind their resolution. They knew the OMB process would be difficult, and nothing had changed. Council has said all along it wanted to have control over schools in residential zoning. I thought we had a 'bigger picture' planning argument. But when push came to shove, council decided not to pursue it."

Burroughs agrees the rushed meeting just days before the OMB hearing was not an ideal situation, and says he understands the frustration of those who have worked closely with the town on the NDSS issue.

But council was advised the town had little hope of success at the hearing, which was to be based on planning issues alone, not the closure of the high school.

He also feels that with council and NDSS supporters pinning so much on a meeting with the Minister of Education, their chances of success would be improved with an elementary school settlement indicating they are willing to work with the school board.

"The advice from our lawyer was that he didn't think we had a very good case. We could have continued fighting the appeal, lost, and said 'we fought the good fight.' But that doesn't do anything for the children who are waiting for a new school," said Burroughs.

"My goal is still to have a right-sized high school, and for that we need a stay of execution for NDSS. To get to that I think it will help to be working with the board in a meaningful fashion. This is only a start, but at least it's a start."

The minutes of settlement and the petition for a right-sized high school have been sent to the office of the ministry of education, says Burroughs, who hopes to hear soon about a meeting to discuss the high school.

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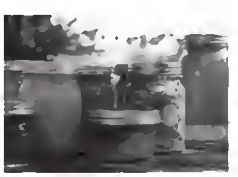

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Board okays community access to computers, library

Line 2 school hasn't a name yet, but it will have an upgraded computer lab.

When town councillors made a last minute about-face and agreed Saturday to call off an Ontario Municipal Board hearing, allowing the rezoning for the new Virgil elementary school to proceed, they made sure they got something in return.

The school board agreed that since elementary school boundaries will change with the opening of the new school, all students who currently attend Virgil or Col. John Butler, and their siblings, will be allowed to attend the new Line 2 school.

Some parents have expressed their concern that with the redrawing of boundaries, some of the students currently in the Virgil-Butler catchment areas would be sent to Parliament Oak. The Old Town school is expected to have its boundaries enlarged to include an area up to East and West Line which is now part of the Butler area.

During efforts to build enrolment at Niagara District Secondary School, many individuals and groups in the community, with the support of council, worked to bring an International Baccalaureate program to NDSS, and were on the road to success, if the board had allowed them more time. During the process for accreditation, which included sending high school teachers out of town for training, the Virgil Business Association contributed $40,000.

According to the terms of the settlement, the school board will reimburse the Virgil Business Association the $40,000 which could then be re-invested by the VBA to pay for upgrades to the computer lab or other facilities at the new school, as determined by the VBA, which will receive recognition for their contribution.

> **"Can this benefit the residents of Virgil? We think it can."**
> *— Lord Mayor Gary Burroughs*

"It will be totally the VBA's decision. They can invest it in the Virgil school however they think best. That came from the school board," said Lord Mayor Gary Burroughs.

The school board has also agreed to provide public after-hours access to the computer lab, gymnasium and library at the new school, and will pay the additional costs for a door to provide access to those facilities.

"There will be a separate entrance so the residents can access them after hours. These are facilities we don't have in Virgil now, and they'll be great for the community," says Burroughs.

The town has also asked the school board to partner in the creation of a public library, located in the new school.

"It's not something we can afford now, but if and when we can proceed with a new library, at a time of our choosing, the board will partner with us," said Burroughs.

"Can this benefit the residents of Virgil? We think it can."

The VBA will also receive recognition in the new elementary school for their contribution to the new NDSS gym floor it helped finance.

"This is an unhappy situation," said Burroughs.

"We've had more than one fundraiser for NDSS, and the VBA has contributed significantly. This is a token, but it does acknowledge the contributions of the VBA to the high school."

Ex-priest with NOTL ties pleads guilty to sex assaults

A former priest who served for about a decade at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Niagara-on-the-Lake has pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting teenage boys in Welland and Cayuga, between 1978 and 1986.

Donald Grecco, 70, admitted his guilt in a Hamilton courtroom March 25. He is scheduled to return for sentencing June 3.

Grecco left NOTL to serve at St. Alexander Church in Fonthill, before leaving the priesthood.

The Hamilton court was told one of the boys took his concerns to the diocese in 2005 but no action was taken. Grecco was charged by the Ontario Provincial Police in 2008.

Grecco was the priest at St. Vincent during the late 80s and early 90s.

It's a Mayfair party and the community is invited

Maypole dancing and fireworks display will help set party mood.

Matt Day
Niagara Advance

Lord Mayor Gary Burroughs is calling it the party Niagara-on-the-Lake needs.

Beginning at 5:30 p.m. on May 1, Parks Canada, the Friends of Fort George and the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake is set to host Mayfair featuring live music, great food, fireworks and a range of olden-day activities at Fort George.

The party is taking place instead of the annual Lord Mayor's dinner, and Burroughs said holding this type of event seems fitting considering preparations for the War of 1812 bicentennial celebrations are underway.

"I hope to see a tremendous crowd come out to the fort and share this experience together," he said.

"We think this town needs a party and what better way to host one than having it tie into the kick-off to the bicentennial celebrations and the role Niagara-on-the-Lake played in the War of 1812. "

Guests will be treated to Maypole dancing, fife and drum corps performances, military re-enactments and a grand fireworks display to cap off the night at 9 p.m.

> **"We think this town needs a party."**
> *— Lord Mayor Gary Burroughs*

Parks Canada staff will be dressed in period costume and will be on hand to talk about the history of the Fort and the extensive restoration that is currently underway, including the repairs to the fort's existing walls and roofs.

Various service organization food vendors and community booths will be set up around the Fort to give them the chance to raise some money.

"The dinner has always been a major fundraiser and there's so many good causes in town that we came up with the idea of letting different service clubs kind of run that portion of the evening so that any money they raise can go right to them."

A licensed refreshment area will also be accompanied by live music provided by Swamperella, which is back by popular demand after the Toronto cajun music group performed at last year's Lord Mayor's Mardi Gras.

Swamperella has earned a reputation that promises a good time. Even those who can watch and listen without being moved to dance are not likely to be standing still.

And that's exactly what this party is intended to do, promises Burroughs.

"It's about showing off our Fort and having some fun."

The "unofficial kick-off to summer" is going on rain or shine and a trolley service compliments of the Pillar and Post will be available to ferry the public to the Fort free of charge.

The pick-up and drop-off spots will be at Town Hall in Virgil, the NOTL Public Library on Anderson Lane and the municipal parking lot behind the Court House on Queen Street.

Tickets are $10 per person with children under 14 years of age being admitted for free.

Tickets are available online at www.niagaraonthelake.com and at the gate on the night of the event.

For more information, call 905-468-3266.

MATT DAY Niagara Advance

Lord Mayor Gary Burroughs is planning a community party at Fort George to help kick off bicentennial celebrations.

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our editorial

Time to move forward and hope for more good news

It was a messy situation—a public meeting that was called so hurriedly the public and press were not notified, and a mostly closed-door discussion about a very important issue that many residents have been very closely involved in for some time.

But as disturbing as the circumstances may have been, the more important discussion concerns the results of the meeting—the town backing down from its aggressive stance toward a school board rezoning request, and the settlement that will allow a new public school to be built in Virgil.

Council had advice they could not win the rezoning fight at the Ontario Municipal Board hearing, which was scheduled to begin Monday and run for five days.

So by majority vote, not all in agreement, council saved thousands of dollars and helped move along the construction of the new school. By some its seen as giving up on possibilities to save the high school. To others, it's more a matter of doing something positive for another group of students.

By agreeing to settle, council also demonstrated a willingness to work with the school board instead of against it, which may or may not win bonus points with the Minister of Education.

The outcome, had the town continued with their opposition, would likely have been the same. During the brief hearing Monday, the OMB chair made it clear his mandate was to decide whether a school on the Line 2 site is good planning, and he concluded it is. He left no doubt that although he has sympathy for a community battling to keep its only high school, that debate could not be part of the hearing.

The high school discussion has divided our community for many reasons, not the least of which has been parents who have felt that debate was needlessly holding up the construction of a new elementary school. It feels right to have at least that battle behind us.

As many parents have said, thanks to the province for the $6.6 million, this town is finally getting something for its education money that we can all be proud of. And we can still hope that one day soon we will be thanking the province for a new high school that will also be a showcase for our town and our students.

Our Heritage

Photo courtesy of the Niagara Historical Museum

This photo is believed to have been taken near Queenston Heights. It is possible this group of young ladies came to Queenston around 1907. What makes this picture interesting is the sign that is barely visible in the background. It states: "Have your picture taken in motor car." Obviously, the novelty of cars was such that people wanted to have their picture taken with one. It is thought that behind these girls is a circa 1905 car, however the girls in the picture make it difficult to see.

letters to the editor

Thanks for help with daffodil sale

On behalf of the Xi Eta Chi chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, I would like to say a big thank you to Van Noort Florists, the two Valu-marts, in the Old Town and Virgil, the Niagara Advance and to the people from the local branch of the Canadian Cancer Society for all their help in making the recent Daffodil Sale a success.

Also a big thank you to all the residents who supported us with the purchase of flowers.

It is projects such as this that help people in need of treatment and help in research to find a cure.

Vera Derbyshire

Credit to Friends of NDSS for research

Thank you for your editorial supporting NDSS (Niagara Advance, April 8). A big thanks as well must go to the Friends for the detailed research they have done for the petition to the Minister of Education, which was ultimately endorsed by all Council members but one.

It was interesting that the article on the page opposite your editorial described Canada's long tradition of the separation of church and state.

Is it not ironic that the parties objecting to the petition to the Minister both represent religious entities which have been assured that their choices will be respected? The Catholic schools have legal status in Ontario and are in no way threatened by the continued existence of a non-religious high school in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Eden High School is a different case but has found a staunch defender in the DSBN.

The assertion is that Niagara's Eden students will not come to NDSS because they attend "an alternate program" in St. Catharines disguises the fact that they are attending a publically funded religious school which requires each student to possess a copy of the Bible and to attend chapel services.

The Ontario Conservative Party lost the last provincial election primarily because of its platform of extending public funding to all religious schools.

As far as I know, there is no provision in law for my tax dollars to flow to a religious school outside the Catholic system. Granting full funding, a public building and courtesy bus transportation to a religious community is one factor which has led to precariously low enrolment at NDSS.

While courtesy buses are no longer available this year, the closure of NDSS would lead to permanent publicly funded bus transportation for Eden students, since all Niagara-on-the-Lake students would have to be transported somewhere. Thus Eden would gain from the demise of NDSS.

We face the very real possibility that those who choose secular, public education will be denied their first choice: a high school in their own town.

Religious communities are by definition closely knit and well organized. It is difficult for politicians to resist the pressure and phone calls which emanate from them when they react to perceived threats. Our politicians represent all taxpayers, however, including non-religious ones like me. I congratulate them for taking a stand on behalf of the wonderful NDSS students who spoke so eloquently before Council as they handed in their "intention sheets" and who wish to have their choice respected.

Our Niagara-on-the-Lake must include NDSS and the fight will now be taken to Queen's Park.

Jim Reynolds

opinion

letters to the editor

Thanks to friends, family, firefighters and police for help

It was Tuesday, April 6, when I narrowly escaped my burning van with two precious grandchildren, ages 4 and 5.

I prefer not to go into too many details, except to say that the event occurred on Anne Street about two blocks from my home. The trauma was further complicated by two issues; my cell phone battery had just "died", and I had laryngitis and could communicate only in a whisper.

Thank you to the kind woman who offered us a ride as we were fleeing away from the burning vehicle. I could not explain at the time why I did not accept. My main concern was that we could walk home more quickly than take the time to get in the car, do up the seat belts, and then reverse the procedure at home. I greatly appreciate your offer, and suspect that you drove home quickly to call 911.

By the time I placed my frantic, whispered call from home, the fire fighters had already been notified.

My sincere appreciation is expressed to my two dear friends, Paul and Joanne Thiessen, who responded immediately to my distress call. Joanne played calmly with the children while Paul placed a phone call to my husband who was in a meeting in St. Catharines, and then drove me back to the scene where we saw the burnt wreckage of my formerly well maintained 2007 van.

Thank you to the police officer who took my whispered report. He was gentle with me, and that meant a lot.

It was also comforting to see some familiar faces amongst the firefighters. Thank you so much for the work you do. You must put yourself into the midst of many horrifying situations, and yet continue to persevere with your efforts to save property and, most importantly, lives.

The prayers and support from family and friends are very greatly appreciated. I have prayed many prayers of gratitude as well, especially after viewing the burnt-out seats in which we had been sitting minutes before our escape.

I also pray that my grandchildren will not be overly traumatized.

My granddaughter, in particular, was urging her brother to "walk faster" as we hurried away from the van. She asked me later if the van had exploded. As I was driving with her yesterday, she commented that she thought she saw smoke. I explained that it was very likely a farmer burning his brush. She admitted that she is still afraid at times, and we agreed that it is okay to feel that way, and that we have to keep remembering that we are safe. That is sometimes easier said than done, especially when considering that we could have been on the skyway, or a busy highway where there is no avenue for escape, and where other vehicles and people would have been dangerously affected.

Although I recognize that there are many much worse tragedies, the "after-shocks" continue.

Sylvia Wiens

Grace United holds first open house

About 50 people attended the first Open House at Grace United Church Sunday. The event was held to welcome the community to the church.

Our NOTL needs NDSS, for students and community

Local education benefits students, businesses and the community. Write to the Minister of Education in support of NDSS, supporters ask.

Sandra Cowan & Georgina Keller

Friends of NDSS

You have seen the phrase "MY NOTL INCLUDES NDSS" for the last couple of years around town.

The Trojan army made it their slogan as have so many others in town while they battle for the right for community secondary education here in Niagara-on-the Lake.

The phrase appears on T-shirts, a popular fashion item among NDSS students and many community members.

Businesses have also shown their support for secondary students by displaying the phrase on their commercial signs and recently NDSS students made banners and placards using the phrase while they demonstrated in a walk-out in front of the NDSS.

Why all the fuss over one small high school you may ask? The best answer to that question that we can give you is that local education has many benefits to offer. It is good for the community and the students.

Here is a list of positive things that a local high school can offer our town.

The most obvious is that our high-school aged children would stay in NOTL, allowing less time spent on bus travel.

Staying local allows students more opportunity for after-school employment. This was mentioned at the Town meeting two weeks ago when a local business owner stated that the highest call-in rate for sickness comes from those students who go to school outside of the community.

Local education gives better access to extra-curricular activities and sports and also allows students a better opportunity to gain volunteer hours close to home, benefiting them and those in this community.

By going to school locally, students make a strong connection to our community, which promotes not only a strong sense of community, but also a desire to remain in NOTL, where they will continue to buy homes and build families.

Local education also offers more safety and less truancy. It's a lot harder to skip classes in a smaller community where many people know you.

Having a local high school also attracts families to our beautiful town, who then buy homes; pay taxes and contributes to the fabric of our community.

Communities need to stay healthy and vibrant in order to grow; local education for both elementary and secondary students is the best way to sustain this growth.

The time is now for NOTL to continue its support for local secondary education.

Please take this opportunity to write Leona Dombrosky, the Minister of Education, at minister.edu@ontario.ca and encourage her to work with our community and the DSBN for local secondary education in NOTL.

Our NOTL not only includes NDSS, it needs NDSS.

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Memorial Campaign launched for Willowbank

Laura Dodson's birthday is celebrated with kick-off of fundraising campaign.

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Laura Dodson would have been 85 today, and to celebrate her friends likely would have had breakfast with her, as they often did, at the Stagecoacb on Queen Street.

Instead, they gathered at her "office" in memory of the friend who died three years ago to chat over breakfast about one of her favourite subjects, the School of Restoration Arts at Willowbank.

She was "an advocate and a community leader the likes of wbom the town will not see again in this lifetime," says long-time friend and Willowbank supporter Carol Beckmann Nixon.

"Laura Dodson's vision of what this extraordinary town represented and of what it could become was monumental. She inspired a generation with her passionate commitment to heritage preservation and her indomitable courage in the face of overwhelming odds."

Dodson, a retired teacher, did more than just talk—she arranged the financing so that the historic estate in Queenston could be purchased, possibly saved from demolition after decades of efforts to preserve it, to be restored as the site of another of her dreams—a school of restoration arts, unlike anything else in Canada.

"The School for Restoration Arts at Willowbank was her crowning achievement. It is a tangible expression of Laura's dedication to teaching and learning, to cultural and aesthetic awareness and to the preservation of skills and values which support the preservation of our heritage," said Nixon, in a letter to Willowbank supporters and friends of Dodson's.

Her generosity, said Nixon, and her ability to persuade others to contribute "turned what might have been simply a lovely dream into a working reality."

To celebrate Dodson's birthday this morning her friends and supporters launched the Laura Dodson Memorial Campaign from Dodson's breakfast booth, with a goal of raising $85,000 to provide continued financial support for Willowbank—an ongoing challenge for all educational institutions, especially given the current economic situation, says Nixon.

The money will allow the administrators and teachers to plan and deliver the programs which will ensure that the School for Restoration Arts continues to flourish, said Nixon.

For more information or to donate, call Carol Perrin Director of Development at Willowbank 905-468-1239 ext. 21.

Laura Dodson met regularly with friends and fellow heritage activists at the Stagecoach. She was photographed about a year before her death with Jim Alexander and Gracia Janes as they discussed Willowbank.

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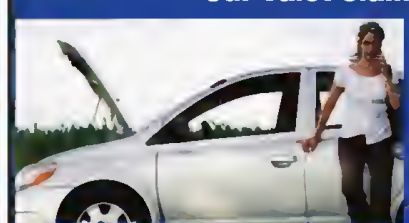

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Long-overdue renovations begin at McFarland House

Popular tea room to be closed during construction but renowned scones and homemade goodies will still be available.

Matt Day
Niagara Advance

The need for renovations had been on the minds of operators of the historic McFarland House for quite some time.

Now, with recent news of provincial and federal money to be invested in renovations to some of Niagara's most historic landmarks, the oldest piece of property owned by the Niagara Parks Commission is getting the facelift it deserves.

Built in 1800 by John McFarland, it served as a hospital and headquarters to both American and British forces during the War of 1812. Because of its strategic location, a cannon battery on the property guarded the river, and the British attack on Fort Niagara Dec. 19, 1813, was launched from the ravine behind the home.

Rebecca Pascoe, manager and curator of the two-century-old house on the Niagara River Parkway, said $250,000 will be spent on expanding the patio, which will be enclosed by a historic conservatory; upgrading the washrooms; and redoing some of the interior space, including the kitchen.

"We are working with some really outdated infrastructure," she said, pointing out the last time a major renovation took place was in 1954.

"We've been talking about remodeling the bathroom since 1990, and to finally have the funding to do so is a wonderful surprise."

She said the washrooms need to be renovated to fit accessibility needs.

Work has already begun on the house as the existing washroom, also used by visitors to McFarland Park and users of the Niagara River Recreational Pathway, has been gutted.

"There's a giant, empty space where that 1950s washroom was, but that's about the extent of the work we're doing right now. We don't want to disrupt operations any more than we have to this summer."

The only change for this year will be the loss of the popular sit-down tea room as construction continues, although refreshments will still be available, including baked goods and 30 different types of teas.

Pascoe said McFarland House will remain open under regular business hours during the tourist season with little distractions.

Costumed staff will continue to lead tours and tell the story of the home and its involvement in the War of 1812.

All work is scheduled to be completed during the winter ready for the opening of the May 2011 season.

"We'll still have tours all day and everyday and wonderful baked goods for sale that we are locally renowned for," said Pascoe.

Opening day this year is May 8.

There will be some disruptions to McFarland House this season but curator Rebecca Pascoe is happy to see the much-needed renovations begin.

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Historic places at risk can be documented, information preserved for future generations

Willowbank School of Restoration Arts is looking for historic places at risk in the Niagara region.

These may be properties that are proposed for demolition, or that are deteriorating through vandalism, neglect, or inappropriate use.

Once they are identified, they become part of Willowbank's inventory of critical information about the region's endangered architectural and landscape heritage. Select properties are then recorded through a six-week summer Documentation Internship Program.

The internship program is designed for youth, high school, college and university students, and also the unemployed, who will be invited to participate in the program as a summer employment opportunity.

The intent is to teach basic recording and documentation techniques, and then to apply these skills to capture key information about buildings, structures and landscapes through research, photographs, measured drawings, and artwork.

There is a one-week intensive training program followed by five weeks of field investigations and follow-up studio work.

> **"Documenting opens peoples' eyes to richness of a place at risk."**
> *— Julian Smith, Willowbank executive director*

The final products are prepared for exhibition in community libraries and municipal halls, with copies deposited in appropriate archival institutions.

Willowbank launched a successful pilot program in 2009.

"The point of the documentation is not only to preserve this information for future generations, but also to raise awareness among current residents and visitors," said Julian Smith, Willowbank's Executive Director.

"Often the simple act of documenting opens people's eyes to the richness of a place at risk."

Established in 2002, Willowbank is both a National Historic Site and an innovative school. The two come together in a living, learning and working environment that celebrates the revitalization of our cultural and historical legacy.

The school offers a three-year diploma program balancing theory and practice in heritage conservation, a three-week Field School Program in Northern Italy, and the Documentation Internship Program.

On Saturday April 24, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Willowbank will host its Annual Open House, an opportunity to talk with staff, meet students and faculty, observe workshops, and discover why this new school crosses the boundaries between academic programs and apprenticeship guilds.

The Documentation Internship Program is funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Ministry of Culture, which allocates grants to eligible charitable and not-for-profit organizations in the arts and culture, environment, human and social services and sports and recreation sectors.

If you know of a historic place at risk or for further information about the school and its programs contact Shelley Huson at 905-262-1239, ext. 23 or school@willowbank.ca.

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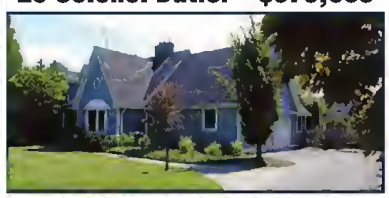

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316 Dorchester • $495,000

This lovely bungalow is located in a great old town location close to lake and golf course. Very tastefully finished plus the lower level would be perfect for an inlaw suite. Beautiful view from front window and lovely private rear yard. MLS New. Victoria (Vicki) Bolduc.

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Freehold bungalow townhouse in old town. 2 beds, 2 baths up. Family room and third bedroom down. Open concept living room with gas fireplace. Garden doors to 3-level decks. MLS 20112025. Viviane Elltoft or Tom Elltoft

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All systems go for $12 million upgrade to Niagara District Airport

Improvements to runway, new terminal part of plan.

Matt Day
Niagara Advance

All systems are a go for the Niagara District Airport's major renovation.

Nearly $12 million equally funded by the federal, provincial and regional governments will be going into the project which will see improvements to the runways, taxiways, terminal building and accessibility.

Lord Mayor Gary Burroughs said the repairs and updates are essential not only for the town itself, but for other Niagara municipalities that use the airport's services.

"The airport is outdated and this particular airport commission is looking to become more self-sufficient, so this type of work is required to help bring regular service to the airport."

Right now, the airport loses about $100,000 to $150,000 a year and the increase in traffic the improvements will attract is projected to bring in an extra $100,000 a year.

Niagara Falls, St. Catharines and Niagara-on-the-Lake all contribute to funding the airport on a yearly basis with NOTL's contribution being the least, at $18,000, based on population, said Burroughs.

The region and the town recently resolved a planning issue in regard to potential future uses of airport land owned by the municipality and two adjacent private properties that also carry airport designation.

Of the many improvements is the installment of Canada's first landing light system comprised of only LED lights.

The airport commission is currently in the planning stages of construction and must have the majority of renovations completed by March 2011 to receive the funding. The terminal improvements will be one of the last items addressed as the main priority is installing security fencing around the entire property.

"If everything is completed by then the airport will be able to function more efficiently for those who rely on its services in Niagara," said Burroughs.

"We need to look at whether or not airports have a role in regional transit and I certainly believe they do."

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Lovely Chautauqua Cottage

This 2-bedroom bungalow opens to a back deck and a large lot with gorgeous views. Open kitchen; sunken great room; master bedroom with en suite privilege; large dining room.
24 Shakespeare Ave. $292,000

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Sitting back from the road this house was architect-designed and built to the highest standards. It enjoys magnificent views over a gentle valley, comprised primarily of superior vineyards. The property is 17+ acres. Underground aquifer, municipal services, outbuildings.
548 Line 1 Road $2,400,000

Tucked Behind the Cedars
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This fabulous 3-acre rural property is incredibly private, with mature trees and a circular driveway. Soaring 2-storey foyer, gracious principal rooms, kitchen and casual rooms. Second floor with huge master suite, 3 further bedrooms and a library. Adjoining 7-acre peach orchard also available at $475,000.
719 Lakeshore Road $985,000

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792 Charlotte Street $697,000

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3 Bay Berry Lane $588,000

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175 Queen Street $1,045,000

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Wind machines needed most for spring frosts

Matt Day
Niagara Advance

Temperatures hitting near-June like temperatures during the day are bringing droves of people out to experience the gorgeous weather.

At night, however, is when the trouble can begin.

Although most people would agree they are liking what Mother Nature has given us so far, farmers in the area aren't too sure what to think.

That's because the much higher than seasonal temperatures have forced plants to blossom 18 days earlier than usual on average.

"It's a double-edged sword," said Ken Slingerland, tender fruit and grape specialist with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA).

"The bad news is we're at high risk of spring frost potentially damaging crops. On the positive side, this could mean an early start to growing season which would be very beneficial to farmers."

> **"Warm weather a double-edged sword."**
> *— Tender fruit and grape specialist Ken Slingerland*

Slingerland said the last time the Niagara region experienced conditions like this was in 1998 when Ontario growers had one of the best seasons ever.

That was before the widespread use of wind machines.

Now, with the singular-blade windmill that circulates warmer temperatures from 60 feet above ground down to the colder temperatures at growing levels, the risk of frost is diminishing, but not totally gone.

Slingerland said there are now about 500 wind machines in Ontario with the majority being used by about 100 Niagara growers.

"They are definitely needed during this type of sporadic weather. Spring has become the bigger problem rather than winter as the frost now can be damaging to the proper growth of the crop."

The OMAFRA concluded a four-year study of the wind machines and presented their findings to council last week.

In their study of a Virgil vineyard, they found the wind machine was needed 28 times over the study period with the most occurrences – 15 – during spring time.

The study showed crops in the middle of Niagara-on-the-Lake as being more susceptible to cold injury than other areas because of the relative distance away from Lake Ontario.

Slingerland said the report was initially done to determine proper management practices for farmers who own wind machines.

"It was interesting to see first hand how the machines warmed up surrounding areas at ground level so quickly."

The information learned from the study can help growers use the machines only when most effective, reducing costs to the farm operation and annoying noise for neighbours.

With no sure-fire way of knowing what the next few weeks will bring, Slingerland said farmers and those who are affected by the noise of the wind machines should remain on guard.

"We could have frost warnings at early morning hours which would mean the machines would be turned on. Luckily, it shouldn't be for an extended amount of time."

In 2005, the industry experienced a $30 million loss in profit due to damaging frosts, almost half of the yearly income.

Butterfly Conservatory & Botanical Gardens

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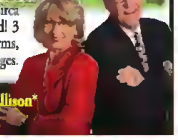

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Virgil daffodils bring hope

PENNY COLES
Niagara Advance

Virgil's Daffodil Garden of Hope, bordering the Robert Mori Memorial Pathway through the Sports Park, was officially opened Saturday by cancer survivors, the families of cancer victims and community members. The Virgil garden raised about $6,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society, and will serve as a symbol of hope each spring when the daffodils bloom. Enjoying the bright yellow flowers while the ceremony was underway is Morgan Mitchell, almost 2, who helped plant the daffodil bulbs last fall with his father in memory of his grandfather, Charles Mitchell.

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St. Mark's celebrates with weekend of music

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It will be a weekend to remember for St. Mark's—a weekend of music.

St. Mark's Anglican Church will celebrate the day of its patron saint with three days of music, timed to co-incide with the dedication of the relocated organ console in the historic church.

The seed for the weekend was planted when Rev. Bob Wright was on sabbatical in Dublin, Ireland in 2007, and visited an Anglican cathedral which was celebrating a weekend of music.

It was an idea he hoped to introduce for the next St. Mark's day, but "2008 wasn't my best year," says Rev. Wright, who suffered a serious illness that year.

Last year was the first annual invitation to the community to enjoy "what we do best, music," says Rev. Wright, and is being repeated this year, April 23 to 25.

Michael Tansley, the new music director and organist with St. Mark's, has composed a mass especially for the occasion which will debut Sunday, April 25, St. Mark's Day.

The Right Reverend Ralph Spence, former Bishop of Niagara, will be on hand for the dedication of the organ console and new church vestments. The service which will include guest musicians, and Reverend Susan Wilson, the Vicar of St. Peter's Church in Heversham, England, which the Addison Chorale visited last year. She will be in town for the celebration and will preach the Sunday service.

Tansley, former organist at Ridley College, has returned to Niagara after some time in Toronto. He will direct the choir at St. Mark's in addition to playing the organ, so the console is being moved downstairs to the front of the church, where he can play and direct at the same time.

The organ hasn't had any major work for the last 50 years, so the dedication celebrates "a major investment."

Peter Ryder, bell-player from Stratford, will be visiting and will play the bells of St. Mark's.

The Sunday celebration begins at 10:30 a.m.

The weekend of music begins April 23, Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. with Spring is in the Airs, a concert with the Addison Chorale.

Saturday, April at 7:30 p.m., A Baroque Birthday celebrates 325 years of Bach and Handel, with organist William Maddox of Yorkminster Baptist Church in Toronto—one of the finest exponents of Bach, says Rev. Bob Wright.

See Page 17

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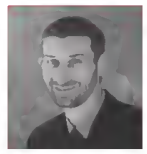

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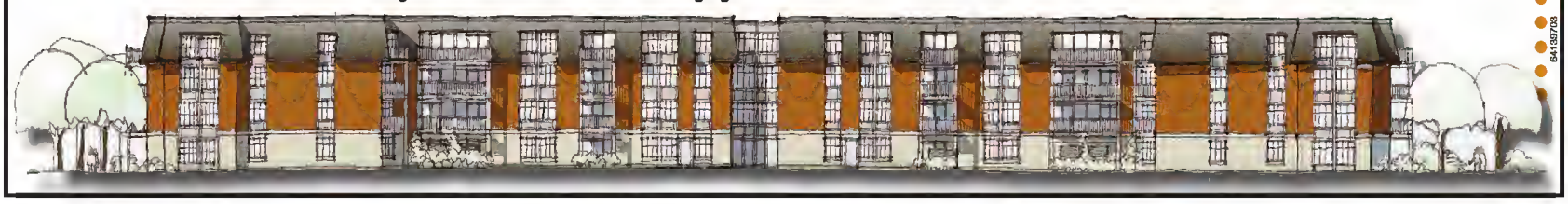

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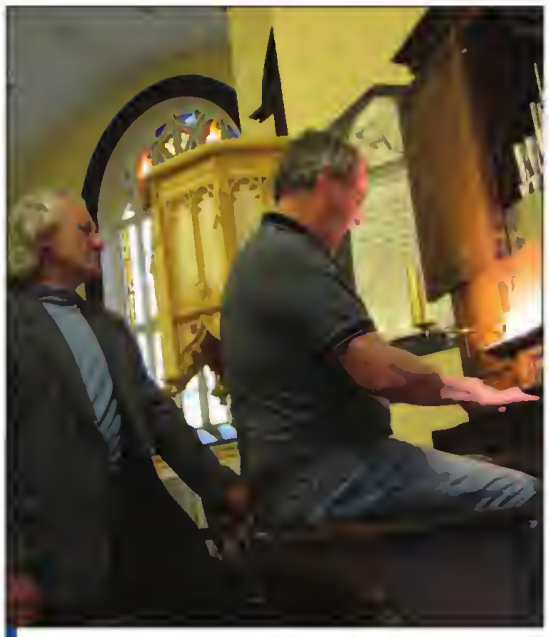

Organist Michael Tansley, with Rev. Bob Wright, prepares for the weekend musical celebration on St. Mark's Gabriel Kney chamber organ.

Michigan choir of young people will also make special appearance

From Page 16

Maddox will be playing the church's restored Delaware/Keats Organ, with Tansley on St. Mark's Gabriel Kney chamber organ.

Tickets for Saturday's concert are $15 each, available in advance from the church office at 905-468-3123, or at the door.

The Olivet College Chamber Choir, a group of young people from Michigan who love NOTL and St. Mark's, will make a special appearance.

"When they come to visit they say 'can we sing for you,'" says Rev. Wright, "and of course we say yes."

For more information about the weekend of music or to reserve tickets call 905-468-3123.

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MATT DAY Niagara Advance

Ray Steans and Sean Lemoine, Grade 4 Virgil students, paint signs to help advertise the school's first fundraising home show.

Virgil Home and Life Showcase to raise funds for new school

Fundraiser showcases local businesses.

Virgil Public School is hosting its first annual Home and Life Showcase featuring many local businesses that are helping to support the fundraising efforts of the school.

The event will also include a kids' zone, with a bouncy castle outside and craft room inside, a barbecue, bake sale and silent auction.

The event is an opportunity for local businesses to make contacts in the community and network with other businesses. Expect to see local home renovators, home decorators, gardening and landscaping experts, RV and recreation retailers, and home-based businesses.

Phil's Valu-mart and the MeridianCredit Union are major sponsors. Niagara Fence Supply, Regal Florist, Mori Gardens, Minor Bros., Niagara Trailers and Natural Light Patios Covers will be on hand as will jewellery, scrapbooking, art, home organization, craft vendors and more.

The funds will be used to help purchase smart boards for Virgil students.

The show is Saturday, April 24 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information about a vendor spot call the school office at 905-468-7793.

NOTL students challenged to a read-off

Great prizes offered for winning class and school.

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Dare you to see how many books you can read in a month.

What youngster can refuse a challenge?

Not many can, says Beth Ann Labelle, children and youth services co-ordinator at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library.

Labelle was outside walking her dog one day, thinking about her favourite subject—getting children to love reading—when she came up with an idea.

Kids love the summer reading program at the library—they just don't seem to be able to resist the challenge, says Labelle.

So she has issued a challenge to NOTL elementary school students from Grade 4 to 8 to compete against each other in a read-off.

The premise is simple, she explains: each student must read as many age-appropriate chapter-length books as possible during the month of April.

For each book they read, they are asked to record the title and author and get their parent or teacher's signature.

At the end of the month teachers will be tallying up the number of books read for each classroom and each school to pass on to Labelle.

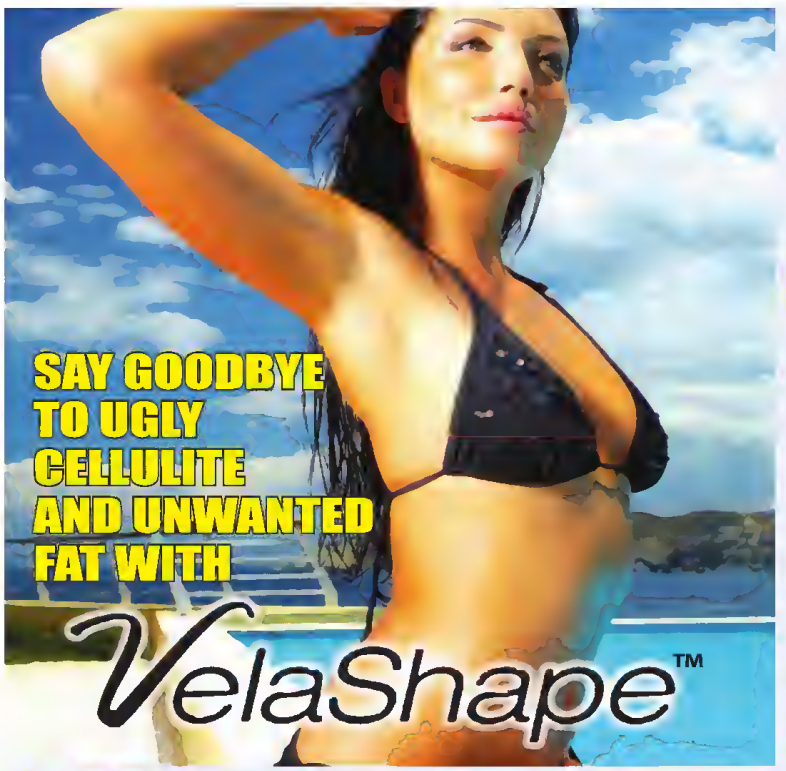
The classroom with students who read the most books during the month will receive a pizza lunch, courtesy of Alfredo's Eatery.

The school with students who read the most books will win a net book computer, donated by Bill Avakian Computers.

This friendly competition is exciting because it brings together all the schools in the area to promote reading, says Labelle.

"From the beginning, when I first spoke to the principals about it, they thought it was a great idea, and they say the kids are really excited."

Issue a challenge, says Labelle, and the children will rise to it—the competitive element is a great motivator.



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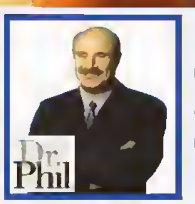

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Pyjama Dance and District Idol at NDSS

Trojan wear is back and for sale for anyone interested.

Lauren Howse
NDSS NEWS

This week Niagara District has heen a-huzz with many activities.

Last week the Grade 10s wrote the Literacy Test, with the Grade 9s writing a practice test. Senior students were lucky and received the day off school.

A few of our brightest math students wrote the Euclid Math Contest last week, good luck to Julia Friessen, Taylor Poulin, Michael Slingerland and Kendra Hobbs.

On Friday dance students from all over Niagara had the pleasure of coming to District and participating in our annual Dance Day, with special work shops with professional choreographers. Thanks to Ms. Wylde for organizing the fantastic day.

Yesterday was Pink Day, where students wore pink to support Anti Bullying. There was also a hake sale, with all profits going towards an Anti Bullying Campaign.

Today we are having our "Pajama Dance" with DJ Corey Mottley, who is a former NDSS grad. We are excited to have him.

District Idol is this Friday, with many different categories including Best Female Performance, Best Male Performance, and Best Duet. We will he having special guest judges Suzanne Merriam, Lord Mayor Gary Burroughs and Guy Bannerman. Thanks to Mrs. Hutchison and Music Council for organizing the annual event.

The Quest program is hack at District every Tuesday, where pizza and pop are served.

The most exciting news of all is that Trojan wear is hack, with dozens of items to pick from. If you are interested in buying some please contact Mark Klassen at 905-468-3293 or download the form from our website.

In the world of sports hadminton has just gotten under way, as well hoys and girls soccer. The hadminton team participated in a tournament yesterday at Holy Cross. Thanks to Mr. Witterick and Mr. Searson for helping all the players get ready.

Thanks to Mr. Kamotovic and Mr. Fettes for coaching the boys and girls soccer.

Our golf team just got back from South Carolina where they won their tournament! Congratulations to Tanner Vandelaar, James Grigjanis Meusel, Alex Morrison, Jack Bowron and Billy Saxton. Thanks to coaches Mark Klassen and Mr Riediger for organizing the trip.

Also, we are proud to announce this year that we will have a field lacrosse team, coached by Mr. Merza. We can't wait for the season to get underway.

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Students letting imagination fly

Older students will see Diary of a Wimpy Kid, movie made from favourite book.

Parliament Oak School
In the Classroom

Nicole Aitken & Victoria Crocco
Parliament Oak students

This week, the Grades 4 to 8 classes have the opportunity to go to the theatres to see the new movie, Diary of a Wimpy Kid.

The students are very excited to see one of the books they love so much come to life on the big screen.

Here is the update about what is happening in the classrooms:

Grade 1\2 has been working on stories for the Young Authors Contest that is being held today. They are also expanding to higher numbers in adding. The Grade 2's have just finished building robots.

Grade 2\3 has been working with soil in science and working with adding and subtracting in math.

In the Grade 3\4 class, most boys and girls have signed up for extra curricular activities such as basketball and also started a new unit in Social Studies, Medieval Times.

The Grade 4\5s have been doing many science experiments, including making glue, in the start of a new unit on Properties and Changes in Matter. They also have started Egyptian masks in art.

Grade 6\7 is starting a flight unit in science. Lauren Cain, Hannah Marsala and Mattea de'Munnich recently won awards at the Regional Science Fair at Brock University.

Grade 7\8 students have been letting their imaginations fly in art. They also have been writing mysteries. In history they are reading about New France.

In French, most classes has been doing new verbs, plays and gestures. The plays are Goldie Locks, Restaurant Of Animals and How To Get There.

Parliament Oak School parents will be hosting an 80's themed fundraiser in support of playground renovations on Saturday, May 1 at the Platoff Community Centre on Platoff Street. The "Totally Radical Hip 80's Party" will include DJ, music, dancing, food, door prizes,drinks and a silent auction with guest MC, Joe Pilliteri. This is an adults only event but the whole community is welcome.

Tickets for the Totally Radical Hop 80's Party are $20 and will be on sale at the door. Tickets are also available at the Parliament Oak School Office and at Balance Fitness Studio in Virgil. The community is welcome. Along with MC Joe Pilliteri, shown here are some of the organizing committee members in their hip 80's gear: Marie Lapointe, Barbara Wilson, Michelle Hawthorne, Heather Davis and Toby Simmonds.

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NDSS boys celebrate Florida golf win

Good time, good result and good memories for NDSS boys who competed in a Florida golf tournament.

Matt Day
Niagara Advance

When the players on the Niagara District Secondary School golf team stepped out of the car after a long 15 hour drive, they realized this wasn't just another day at the links.

For the fourth time, NDSS took part in the annual Palmetto High School Championship in Myrtle Beach, S.C. recently and the team of five took home first place in the third flight of schools competing.

All together, 60 schools took part in the prestigious high school championship tournament. The field is split into three divisions after a qualifying round, in order to better separate the skill levels.

Ken Riediger, the team's coach, said the tournament win feels even better knowing the school went out with a bang.

"It's going to be a nice memory to have and will fit in quite well with all the other memories we've created at this school," he said. "Even if we wouldn't have won, we had a great time and it's an experience we won't forget."

NDSS surprised the field, being one of the few Canadian schools there and having little time to practice thanks to coming from a much colder climate. They won the third flight outright by nine strokes and finished with a combined score of 698 through two days.

Grade 11 student Tanner Vandelaar said the atmosphere was a lot different than on the courses he's used to golfing at in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

He said it took a round to get used to the fast greens, several water and sand traps, and the vast open spaces, not to mention the level of competition the small-town team would be up against.

"As soon as we got there, there were so many people with team shirts and bags and that felt a little intimidating," he said.

"But as soon as we were matched up with golfers of our skill level, it became just a game again."

Through the first day of competition, NDSS held a slim six stroke lead over the next best school.

Teammate James Grigjanis-Meusel said knowing they had a lead going into the final day was both a blessing and a curse.

"It felt good knowing we were ahead, but we knew the other schools would step up their game. We couldn't just sit back, we had to go out and golf our best."

And that they did.

When the top four scores of the five-person team were added up, they found they had secured the first place finish.

Grigjanis-Meusel said the experience he gained from competing and the people he met were the best parts of the trip, other than celebrating a win by lighting off some fireworks at night under the supervision of coach Riediger.

"A lot of the Americans we talked to thought it was interesting how Canadians are just starting their golf season and didn't think we would do as well as we did. It was cool to see that type of perspective."

As for Vandelaar, knowing he is leaving the school as a golf champion is something he said he will always be proud of.

"It shows no matter what we're going through, we still have the will to win."

Tanner Vandelaar, Grade 11, James Grigjanis-Meusel, Grade 11, Billy Saxton, Grade 10, Alex Morrison, Grade 11 and Jack Bowron, Grade 9, are proud of their win in a Florida golf tournament.

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NOTL girls are champs

The NOTL novice girls Slush Puppies won their championship game 3-2 against the St. Catharines Firebirds, with goals scored by Morgan Buis, Katie Miller and Samantha Holenski. Goaltender Avery Penner led the team to the championship with a 1-0 shut-out in the semi-final and goaltender Hailey Rumsey held onto the championship with some quick moves and outstanding stick saves at the end of the final contest. Coaching the girls to victory were Chris Miller, Chris Clark, Gerry Penner and Perry DeBon.

St. Davids Firefighters #1

St. Davids Firefighters are the novice house league champs, winning their fifth game 5-1 in the best of five series over Niagara Motors. It was a close, tense final game—Niagara Motors won the first two contests, the Firefighters took games 3 and 4, and the championship game was tied 1-1 until midway through the third period when the Firefighters turned on the heat and scored four more goals for the win.

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Sunday, April 18th
9:30 am: 1st Service (nursery care provided entire service)
10:30am: Coffee Time • 11:00am: 2nd Service
(nursery care provided mid-way through service)
Message by: Doug Hiebert, Pastor
Ed Heinrichs, Pastor

Niagara United Mennonite Church
"Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community"
Sunday, April 18th
Worship Service
10:45 am
Message by: Pastor Rudy Dirks
"Guided by The Spirit"
(Acts 15:28)
Pastors:
Rudy & Sharon Dirks,
Stephen Cox
1775 Niagara Stone Road
905-468-3313
http://www.redbrickchurch.ca

Orchard Park BIBLE CHURCH
434 Hunter Rd. 905-468-5731
www.orchardparkbiblechurch.org
Sunday, April 18th
9:30 am - Sunday School for all ages
10:45 am
Message by Pastor Jim Evans
"Wake up! Get Dressed! Live Right"
Nursery and Kidzone for ages 3 to SK during the service

St. Davids - Queenston UNITED CHURCH
EVERYONE WELCOME
1453 York Road
in the village of St. Davids
905-262-5242
Minister:
Rev. Paul James
Sunday Services at 10:30 am
Sunday School and Nursery during the Worship Service

LIFE ABUNDANT FELLOWSHIP
"To know Christ & to make Him known"
Sunday April 18th, 2010, 10:30am
Message:
Walking in Newness of Life:
Made to be...Generous
Pastor Rick Mills
Concession 7 & Queenston Rd, NOTL • 905-688-3958
lifeabundantfellowship@gmail.com

St. Saviour's Anglican Church
General Brock Memorial
on the Niagara River in
Queenston
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

To Advertise
in the Church Directory
Call Karen Skeoch
at 905-468-3283 ext. 101
www.karens@niagaraadvance.com

ST. MARK'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
41 Byron Street
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Sunday Service 8:30am & 10:30am
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Miscellaneous A230

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11872957

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Rentals

Apartments Unfurnished A610

ONE BDRM upstairs, Queen St. NOTL. Avail. May 1st. Fridge & stove. $650/month inclusive. 905-468-3238
11869010

Or Furn. 3 Bdrm backsplit Virgil, behind Organic General Store. Newly Reno $1,200/mo inclusive, F/L, Ref. 905-371-4040.
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11868558

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Notices

Community Services

Coming Events A940

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY of Niagara Region Support Groups for Caregivers meets third Wed. evening of each month (except July & Aug) 1-2:30 p.m. & 7-8:30 p.m. 403 Ontario St. 905-687-3914
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FISH FRY
Thursdays 4:30-7:30pm
Royal Canadian Legion
Br #124
410 King St.
All Welcome!

April 15, Thursday, 7:30 pm. Finding Brock's Deed House, a lecture by Guy St-Denis. Niagara Historical Museum, 43 Castlereagh Street $5 or free for Society Members.
905-468-3912.
11875748

ST. DAVIDS LIONS FISH FRY
Friday, April 16 & 23
4:30 pm until 7:00 pm
Take-Out Available
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Coming Events A940

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Personals

Garage Sales

Garage Sales G100

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Something for everyone

GARAGE SALE!
Household items & more. Sat. April 17th, 8 am-? 671 Penner St. Virgil
11881521

HUGE

KIDS USED Clothing, toy & equipment sale! **Sat. Apr. 17,** 9am-Noon. Niagara Falls Optimist Hall. $1 entry.
11878096

Garage Sales G100

Rain or Shine

SAT. APR. 17, 8 am-? 275 John Street West. Bedding, towels, household items, etc...
11888107

Sat. Apr. 17, 9 am. 811 Simcoe St. Hotel Reno, Fremed Prints, Armoire, upright freezer, household and sporting goods.
11884859

HUGE

Sat. Apr. 17 9am-7pm & Mon. Apr. 19 4pm-7pm. 1716 Hwy 55.
11886442

MOVING SALE!

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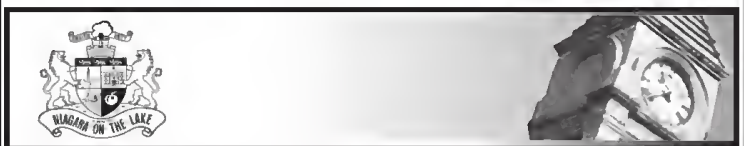
Careers A780



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Salary range: $76,403 to $92,820 per annum with a 35-hour work week

We offer a positive and exciting environment and invite you to contribute your expertise to our world-class community and continue our rich tradition of excellence. Please apply in writing by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 23rd, 2010 to:

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e-mail: jobpostings@notl.org fax: (905) 468-2959

To learn more about this position, please visit the Town's website at:

www.notl.org

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Legal Notices A900

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

IN THE ESTATE OF
MARIE KUNIEC
deceased

ALL claims against **the Estate of Marie Kuniec**, of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, who died on January 30, 2010, must be filed with the undersigned on or before April 30, 2010, after which date the Estate will be distributed with regard only to claims then received.
Dated at Niagara Falls, ON, this 17th day of March, 2010.

SHARPE, BERESH & GNYS
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Calvin Wm. Beresh
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Births

Kim and Mike Kelly
are pleased to announce
the safe arrival of
"ADDISON NEVE KELLY"
little sister to Sierra Kelly.

Born March 12, 2010
at home in St Davids.

Grandparents are:
Pat and June O'Neill, Queenston,
Mike and Denise Kelly, Apsley.
Great grand-child of
Helen MacMillan, St Catharines and
Dorothy Kelly, Coburg.

11887620

RACHEL and JASON CLARKE
are pleased to announce the arrival
of their second child;
A Little Brother for JACK,
TOBY JASON
born on February 25, 2010
in Mission B.C.
Proud Grandparents are:
Frank & Barb Pearson
of St. Davids and
Michael & Marilyn Clarke
of Cairo Egypt

11883646

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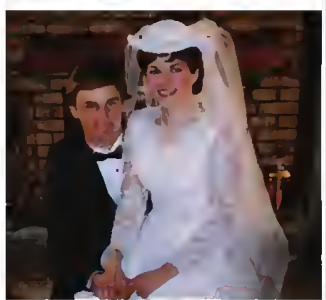
BERT!
Love
Karen, Dan & Stef

11887054

Anniversaries

25th Wedding Anniversary



Happy 25th Anniversary
Jim and Cathy van der Zalm

With love from
your family and friends

11885430

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Deaths

CROSKERY, Peter Ross - Passed away suddenly at home on Thursday April 8, 2010 at the age of 64. Beloved father of Leslie and Andrew Croskery. Brother of Deb Madill (Al) and Susan Croskery (Paul Grinder). Uncle of Heather and Sarah Madill. Predeceased by his parents, Howard and MaryLou Croskery. Peter was very involved with the Kinsmen Club for over 30 years. Prior to Peter becoming a Financial Advisor he was a Wildlife Biologist with the Ministry of Natural Resources, had a passion for wildlife education, and worked as an editor for various publications. For the past 20 years he conducted pesticide certification for the Ministry of Agriculture. Peter was also an avid reader and outdoorsman. He loved spending time with his buddies at Club Canard and Butler's Sports Bar.
Peter's family will receive friends at MORGAN FUNERAL HOME, 415 Regent Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake on Saturday, April 17th, from 1-2 pm followed by a service in the chapel. For those who wish, memorial donations may be made to the World Wildlife Foundation or the Alzheimer's Society.Online guest register: www.morgenfunerel.com.

A Memorial Donation has been made to
Morgan Funeral Homes Community Fund

11888919

DEAN, Phyllis G (nee English) - Passed away on Thursday April 1, 2010 at the St. Catharines General Hospital at the age of 89. Predeceased by her husbands Gordon Merritt, Clayton Dean and Bert King. Survived by her step-sons Berry and Robert Dean as well as her step daughter-in-law Mary Dean, brother-in-law Roy (Lou Nelle) Merritt, sisters-in-law Helen Merritt and Frances Merritt and several grandchildren, nieces and nephews. She will also be remembered by the King Family. Phyllis' last few years were spent in Niagara-on-the-Lake but she was a lifelong resident of St. Catharines. She was a dedicated member of Earl Mountbatten Chapter IODE, a past president of the St. Catharines Historical Society and a longtime member of Knox Presbyterian Church. Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held on Wednesday April 21st at 2pm at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (Simcoe Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake). For those who wish memorial donations may be made to the charity of one's choice through **MORGAN FUNERAL HOME** 415 Regent Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake. Online guest register www.morgenfuneral.com

A Memorial Donation has been made to
Morgan Funeral Homes Community Fund

11881882

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In memoriam

RBI St. Pierre
April 20, 1995 - April 13, 2010

RBI (Runs Batted In) was a much loved dog of the St. Pierre family. A mix of coyote, husky, and golden lab, she was bred to be a light sled dog, she grew up in Bowen Island, B.C. then moved to Vancouver and finally settled in Niagara-on-the-Lake. As a young dog she was full of energy and was known to take off and run with the deer for days, coming home completely exhausted. Her exuberance, zest for life and her free spirit is what was most endearing about her. Just saying "walk" caused her to leap and jump and do happy pirouettes.
Thank you, RBI, for getting us out for a walk every day, even in the most severe weather and for being a dear friend. Good-bye.
We will never forget you.
Love, Steve and Susan, Jeff and Robin, Mike and Lou-Ann and all RBI's friends, both canine and human.

11888325

TEN YEARS
Shirley (Prentice) Matthews,
January 18, 1930 - April 21, 2000

This day is remembered
And quietly kept.
No words are needed
But we all shall never forget.
For those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us along the way.
Unseen and unheard, but always near.
So loved, so missed and still very dear!

Love always from your children,

Bob and his wife Catriona of Edmonton,
Gary of Toronto,
Melanie MacDonald of St. Catharines,
Mami and her husband Martin Miksza of Guelph,
Shena of St. Catherines and
Chris and his wife Bonnie of Lockport, N.Y.

and your grandchildren,

Tim, Tere, Liem, Daniel, Amanda, Erin and Marissa

11886734

Newsettes

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Coming Events A940

APRIL 22, Thursday COMMUNITY LUNCH - Grace United Church, Victoria at Queen. 12-Noon. All Welcome!

Apr. 23, Fri., 7:30pm, Euchre Party with Virgil Women's Institute, Virgil Arena, $3.50 includes dessert. All Welcome!

APRIL 21 to May 19, Wednesdaya, Five week session 1:30 - 3:00 pm. **Losa of Spouse - Grief Support Group.** Sponsored in partnership; Morgan Funeral Home and NOTL Community Palliative Care. Sessions are free, registration is necessary, please call 905-468-3255.

APRIL 23, Fri. 5:00-7:00 pm. CHILI SUPPER! St. George's Church/ Homer, 163 Queenston Road. NOTL. Adults $9 Children 6 & under $3. 7-12 $4.50 Tossed Salad, Italian Bread & Assorted Pies. Tickets available at door.

April 16, Friday, BEEF-ON-A-BUN Supper. Grace United Church 5-7 pm Adults $10.00, Children $5.00

GOLDEN AGE CLUB GARAGE SALE
Saturday May 15, 2010
8:00 am. 2:00 pm
Community Centre - Platoff Street
Rent a table - $10.00
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Senator Mike Duffy
& The Honorable Rob Nicholson MP
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5875 Falls Avenue, Niagara Falls, ON
Reception - 6:30pm & Dinner - 7:30pm
Black Tie Optional - Ticket $150.00
Tax receipt for eligible amount to be provided
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The Niagara Falls Electoral District Association

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Niagara Advance

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Doug Rempel

St. Catharines

122 Meredith Drive - $319,000

Immaculate 3+1 hdrm, 3.5 bath home sits on almost 1/3 of an acre! Spacious kitchen with large pantry, main floor laundry, open foyer - an absolutely stunning place to raise your growing family. Finished lower level with 4th hdrm, hath & huge rec room too!

Stefan Regier*

23 Bianca Drive - $379,900

Magnificent 4 hdrm home in the heart of Virgil. Stunning great rm with hardwood floors and gas fireplace. Spacious eat-in kitchen with ample maple cupboards. Formal dining room for elegant dinners. Spectacular master suite with 2 walk-in closets and 4 piece ensuite with soaker whirlpool tub. Finished basement with additional family room. Conveniently placed 2nd floor laundry room. Fully fenced yard with 2-tiered deck and storage shed. Douhle car garage. 5 minutes to old town.

Lolita Hale*

Former Model Suite

264 Oakdale #101 - $114,900

This spacious 2 bdrm unit is well maintained & nicely decorated including neutral ceramic tile & broadloom. Suite is in move-in condition & close to all amenities. Kitchen has hleached oak cabinets & includes 3 appliances. In-suite hook-up for laundry, two parking spaces & more!

Doug Rempel*

Anna & Jaime da Silva

"THE VILLAGE" OPEN HOUSES SUNDAY 2-4

46 Garrison Village Drive - $533,000

Located in Niagara-on-the-Lake's trendy development known as "The Village", this wonderful 4 bedroom, 3 ½ bath family friendly home was built to exacting standards, enhanced and upgraded by the current owners, is fully finished on all levels, set on the largest - pool size lot in the sub-division. This very special home, a Colonial classic, offers exceptional value and is certain to please the most discriminating buyer. ***For more information go to www.46Garrison.info.***

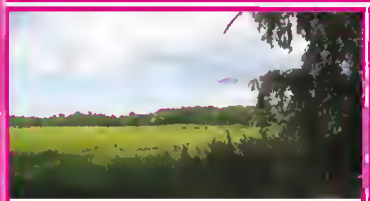
Doug Rempel*

38 Elizabeth Street - $439,000

Custom designed Regency styled cottage offers a sun-filled great rm with extra deep windows. You'll find hardwood floors, a gas fireplace, & crown molding trim detail too. The master with full ensuite & patio walkout, 2nd bdrm or den/family rm & powder rm are conveniently located. Open plan kitchen with granite counters, under valance lighting & steps to the laundry, garage & patio. Fully finished lower level, tumhled-stone walk & driveway & so much more. ***For more information go to www.38ElizabethStreet.info.***

Doug Rempel*

Stefan Regier



Estate Building Lot - $399,000

Mature trees and lush vegetation have kept this spectacular 17.87 acre property hidden away. Limited access will ensure the new owner's privacy. If you are looking for a place to build your dream home, this special property may he the one!

Doug Rempel*

OPEN HOUSE SAT & SUN 1-4

Visit the Newly Completed Standard Model Suite!

6334 DeSanka Avenue - Niagara Falls - From $259,900

(Off Kalar & Forestview between Lundy's Lane and McLeod Rd)

EMPTY NESTERS! HERE IT IS! - Choose your style and finishes. Affordable pricing and excellent locations available. This Award Winning project has fabulous appeal. Gracious water park entrance, double car garages, 2 bedrooms and 2 full baths. 1366 sq. ft., private decks, concrete driveways and best of all no more grass to cut and no more snow to shovel. ***For more information go to www.6334DeSanka.info.***

Anna da Silva* and Jaime da Silva*

Prime Agricultural Land

Concession 5 & Line 8 Road

Two adjoining parcels located at the foot of the "Bench" with some of the highest heat units allowing for a longer growing season. Lands are suitable for tender fruit orchard, vineyard, or other crops. Extensive soil analysis confirms very high organic matter.

Part 1 - 60 Acres $550,000
Part 2 - 40 Acres $450,000

Doug Rempel*

Lolita Hale

NEW!

124 William Street
$379,000

Surrounded by lush lawns & beautiful perennial gardens, this meticulously well cared for, spotlessly clean 2 bedroom, 3 bath, old town treasure is a must see! Just past the master with potential to he a 3rd hdrm is the family room with walkout to a pergola covered deck overlooking the private back garden. Fully finished, the lower level includes a rec rm, office or bdrm, 4 pc bath & laundry. Don't wait ***visit www.124William.info***

Doug Rempel*

NEW!

28 Diana Drive
$379,000

Practical design elements, attention to the smallest detail & trendy decor are cleverly combined in this custom built Jenko Home. Entertain in the formal living/dining room, perform culinary magic in the dream kitchen then relax around the gas fire in the sunken family room or while away the summer hours on the awning covered patio overlooking the fenced yard and garden shed/playhouse. This may be the one! ***Visit www.28Diana.info***

Doug Rempel*

Sales Representative* Broker** Broker of Record***